

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF MENDON

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE

Municipal Year Ending December 31, 1916.

[250TH ANNUAL REPORT.]

MILFORD, MASS.

MILFORD JOURNAL CO., PRINTERS,

1917.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned Treasurer of the Town of Mendon for the financial year ending December, 31, 1916, submits an account of his doings.

The Treasurer debits himself with receiving the following sums viz:—

To cash received from the Treasurer for the year ending December 31, 1915	\$ 740 40
To cash received from Milford Savings Bank	8,500 00
To cash received from Collector, 1914 ..	591 53
To cash received from Collector, 1915 ..	2,490 75
To cash received from Collector, 1916 ..	11,208 79
To cash received from Collector, M. & U. St. Ry. tax	227 29
To cash received from Collector, M., A. & W. St. Ry. tax	41 63
To cash received from Collector, Wor. Sub. St. Ry. tax	688 62
To cash received from State Treasurer, St. Ry. tax	788 68
To cash received from State Treasurer, Income from School Fund	1,053 28
To cash received from State Treasurer, State Road, 1916	740 00
To cash received from State Treasurer, Inspection of Animals	23 00
To cash received from State Treasurer, Asst. in High School	500 00
To cash received from State Treasurer, Public Service Corporation tax	171 83
To cash received from State Treasurer, Business Corporation tax	10 83

To cash received from State Treasurer, National Bank tax	514 22
To cash received from State Treasurer, Burial Indigent Soldier	50 00
To cash received from State Treasurer, Soldiers' exemption	50 43
To cash received from State Treasurer, State Aid, 1915	272 00
To cash received from State Treasurer, Tuition School Children	142 00
To cash received from F. J. Dutcher, on account supervision of schools ...	375 00
To cash received from City of Boston, tuition of school children	70 50
To cash received from County Treasurer, Dog tax	167 98
To cash received from M. & U. St. Ry. Co., Grove license	50 00
To cash received from Daniel H. Barnes, Bowling Alley license	15 00
To cash received from Charles W. Buck, Skating rink license	10 00
To cash received from S. A. Brown, Pool table license	2 00
To cash received from R. L. Daley, Pool table license	2 00
To cash received from Thure Hanson, Pedlar's license	3 00
To cash received from Proprietors Records and Town Annals	4 50
To cash received from Rent of Alliance room	12 00
To cash received from Arthur E. Brown, janitor	77 00
To cash received from William A. Barry, 1-2 fees hay scales	10 75
To cash received from Frank Stevens for old settees	2 00

To cash received from Frank M. Aldrich for old junk	1 00
To cash received from Taft Public Library, fines	14 75
To cash received from Taft Public Library, lamp	1 00
To cash received from Leon A. Wright for grass	1 50
To cash received from Walter A Gaskill, grass from old cemetery	8 00
To cash received from Leonard S. Perry, tree spraying	5 00
To cash received from W. G. Pond, Clerk 3d District Court	50 00
	<hr/> \$29,688 26

The Treasurer credits himself with paying the following sums viz:—

By paying 136 Town orders	\$13,327 40
“ School Department	2,308 76
“ 2 notes new school building..	650 00
“ 2 notes anticipation of revenue, 1915	3,000 00
“ 1 note general expense	500 00
“ 2 notes anticipation of rev- enue, 1916	6,000 00
“ Interest on notes	426 47
“ State Treasurer, State tax ..	1,360 00
“ County Treasurer, County tax	756 00
“ Bureau of Statistics	8 00
To cash on hand to balance	1,351 63
	<hr/> \$29,688 26

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 FUND.

To cash deposited in Milford Savings		
Bank	\$537 50	
To cash, interest, Milford Savings Bank..	21 70	
	<hr/>	\$559 20
	Cr.	
By cash deposited in Milford Savings Bank	\$559 20	
	<hr/>	\$559 20

The notes against the Town, January 1st, 1917, are:—

7 New School Building Notes, \$500	
each	\$3,500 00
7 New School Building notes, \$150	
each	1,050 00
1 Serial note	500 00
2 notes, anticipation of revenue	2,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$7,550 00

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD T. GASKILL, .

Treasurer.

Mendon, January 13, 1917.

AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

Dr.

To cash received L. T. Gaskill, Treasurer, 1915-1916, deposited in Milford Savings Banks	\$ 927 04	
To cash received deposited in Worcester County Institution for Savings	729 85	
To cash received Interest Milford Savings Bank	34 92	
To cash received Worcester County Institution for Savings	29 46	
	<hr/>	\$1,721 27

Cr.

By cash paid 3 Town orders	\$ 75 00	
By cash deposited in Milford Savings Bank	886 96	
By cash deposited Worcester County Institution for Savings	759 31	
	<hr/>	\$1,721 27

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD T. GASKILL,

Treasurer.

Mendon, January 1st, 1917.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen submit the following report of expenditures for the municipal year ending January 1, 1917.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Frank M. Aldrich, forest warden (1915)	\$10 00
Frank M. Aldrich, forest warden (1916)	10 00
Geo. M. Taft, auditor	6 00
Samuel W. Wood, assessor	70 00
Chas. A. Fletcher, assessor	70 00
Chas. H. Allen, assessor	85 00
T. O. Daffon, dog officer	10 00
T. O. Daffon, constable, Mar.6--Sept. 1, 1916	14 00
Frank M. Aldrich, fire warden	10 00
Charles H. Allen, town clerk and registrar	75 00
Charles H. Allen, recording and indexing 25 deaths	5 00
Charles H. Allen, recording and indexing 13 births	6 50
Charles H. Allen, recording and indexing 7 marriages	1 40
Charles H. Allen, administering oaths to 20 officers	5 00
Charles H. Allen, sealer of weights and measures, minus fees	6 03
Henry M. Burr, selectman	35 00
Henry M. Burr, overseer of poor	6 00
Edward T. Powers, selectman	30 00
Edward T. Powers, overseer of poor	6 00

Smith A. Steere, selectman	50 00	
Smith A. Steere, overseer of poor	45 00	
Leonard T. Gaskill, tax collector, year 1914	100 00	
Leonard T. Gaskill, treasurer, year 1916	100 00	
	<hr/>	\$755 93

STREET LIGHTING.

Milford & Uxbridge St. Ry. Co.	\$ 40 00	
Worcester Suburban Electric Co.	206 64	
	<hr/>	\$246 64

OLD CEMETERY.

Alonzo E. Brown, labor	\$44 75	
Memorial Day Committee	55 00	
	<hr/>	\$99 75

MOTH SCOUT.

Frank M. Aldrich	\$116 50	
Geo. M. Aldrich	33 00	
Carl Wilbur	6 00	
Geo. M. Taft, use of team	1 50	
Staples & Gould, creosote	50	
	<hr/>	\$157 50

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

A. E. Brown, storing fire apparatus	\$12 00	
F. M. Aldrich, repairing extinguishers, etc.	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$15 00

FIRE BUILDING.

RESOURCES.

Appropriation	\$250 00
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EXPENDITURES.

S. W. Wood, labor and stock	\$97 03	
Geo. H. Locke, supplies	133 78	
H. M. Curtiss, cement	12 10	
S. W. Wood, supplies	7 00	
Unexpended balance	09	
	<hr/>	\$249 91
	\$250 00	

BOARD OF HEALTH.

Dr. A. J. Gallison, medical attendance to tubercular patient	\$15 00	
Wm. Drescher, support and care of tubercular patient	24 50	
Rev. W. W. Wakeman, services at funeral of tubercular patient	3 00	
Carl M. Taft, transportation	3 50	
F. K. Brown, transportation	7 50	
F. K. Brown, inspection of slaughtering .	65 75	
W. W. Watson, funeral expense, tu- bercular patient	70 00	
Dr. F. H. Lally, fumigating:—		
Frank Knights	2 50	
F. C. Lowell	5 00	
Leslie Fletcher	2 50	
E. F. Lilley	2 50	
R. P. Neil	2 50	
L. Leslie Fletcher, quarantine	19 50	
	<hr/>	\$223 75

TREE WARDEN.

F. M. Aldrich, services as tree warden ...	\$10 00	
F. M. Aldrich, telephone charges, cutting and trimming trees	10 70	
P. T. Kinsley, labor	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$22 70

INCIDENTALS.

BALLOT CLERKS AND TELLERS.

John J. Driscoll	\$6 25	
H. J. George	10 00	
Wm. H. Driscoll	5 00	
Raymond Daley	3 00	
Arthur V. Pond	4 50	
E. F. Driscoll	1 25	
	<hr/>	\$30 00

RETURNING BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Dr. F. T. Harvey, returning 2 births ...	\$ 50	
W. W. Watson, returning 6 deaths	1 50	
Geo. W. Wood, returning 6 deaths	1 50	
	<hr/>	\$3 50

POLICE.

Joseph Alves, service July 3 and 4	\$ 3 00	
T. O. Daffon, service July 3 and 4	3 00	
T. O. Daffon, services at Nipmuc Sundays	16 50	
A. E. Brown, services July 3 and 4	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$25 50

FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Carl M. Taft, transportation	\$4 00	
Investigating a fire	1 35	
	<hr/>	\$5 35

FOREST FIRE PAYROLL.

Corcoran fire	\$3 50	
Charles River fire	3 50	
Halsing fire	6 25	
Ballou fire	5 50	
Lakeside fire	3 24	
E H. Taft fire	4 25	
	<hr/>	\$26 24

PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

Milford Journal Co.	\$92 78	
Milford Daily News	29 51	
G. M. Billings	16 75	
A. W. Brownell	6 10	
Worcester County Abstract Co.	15 56	
Hobbs and Warren	1 05	
Sanford Putnam Co.	10 00	
P. B. Murphy	2 35	
	<hr/>	\$174 10

TOWN HALL BUILDING.

Arthur E. Brown, janitor	\$80 00	
Arthur E. Brown, erecting booths	4 00	
Worcester Suburban Electric Co.	19 49	
E. H. Taft, wood	7 40	
D. H. Barnes, supplies	1 79	
Avery & Woodbury Co., curtains	14 00	
Howard G. Ramsey, electric supplies	8 65	
Clark Ellis & Sons, stove pipe and labor	2 08	
	<hr/>	\$137 41

INCIDENTALS.

Worcester Suburban Electric Co., light- ing record room	\$12 63	
N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co., toll charges	70	
W. & L. E. Gurley, supplies for sealer of weights and measures	3 38	
H. J. George, insurance	151 85	
Lewis H. Barney, coal for record room ..	8 50	
Chas. H. Allen, expenses to Boston	3 00	
Chas. H. Allen, sealing hay scales and labor on same	1 50	
Chas. H. Allen, preparing valuation list..	10 00	
Chas. H. Allen, express and expenses to Boston	4 27	

Chas. H. Allen, carfare and express	2 68
Chas. H. Allen, postage and telephone . .	4 60
Chas. H. Allen, cash paid J. E. Johnston for Town Clerk's blanks	1 00
Chas. H. Allen, expenses to clerk's meet- ing in Whitinsville	2 00
Chas. H. Allen, care of record room and lawn	6 00
R. P. Neil, construction of division fence on school house line	63 04
Carter Ink Co., ink	75
Henry M. Burr, stamped wrappers	2 50
Henry M. Burr, expenses to Boston	1 50
Moses U. Gaskill, inspector of animals . .	43 50
F. K. Brown, automobile spring	5 00
Geo. M. Taft, use of team	75
James L. Lilley, sign board	2 00
John Hoberg, fertilizer for Founder's Park	6 75
Jeremiah Murphy, fees and expenses in criminal cases	15 04
Avery & Woodbury Co., floor brush for record room	2 50
S. W. Wood, preparing valuation list . . .	10 00
E. A. Snow, care of lawns	15 50
Smith A. Steere, postage, telephone, car- fare	9 00
Leonard T. Gaskill, postage	8 41
Leonard T. Gaskill, use of well	5 00
Leonard T. Gaskill, carfares	5 00
Leonard T. Gaskill, making returns for Bureau of Statistics	7 00
Leonard T. Gaskill, expenses to Boston . .	1 50

\$416 85

STATE ROAD. "NORTH AVENUE."

RESOURCES.

State Highway Commission	\$1,000 00	
Town appropriation	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,500 00

EXPENDITURES.

C. A. Fletcher, labor	\$45 00
S. A. Steere, labor	27 50
H. E. Steere, labor	45 00
Roscoe Steere, labor	17 50
John M. Towne, labor	50 00
Manuel T. Rogers, labor	47 50
George B. Cromb	52 50
Charles Kingman	12 50
Raymond Daley	7 50
George Foster	35 00
Harold A. Wheeler	22 50

TEAMS.

C. A. Fletcher	168 00
Wm. F. Irons	97 00
P. T. Kinsley	114 00
M. U. Gaskill	108 00
Frank Harding	66 00
M. U. Gaskill, gravel	73 00
E. T. Powers, soil pipe	30 25
Henry Godbeer, bound stones	3 60
H. M. Curtiss Coal Co., coal and pipe ...	12 41
Unexpended balance	465 24
	<hr/>
	\$1,500 00

REPAIRS OF ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Order to Road Commissioners	\$3,218 27
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SUPPORT OF POOR.

Order to Overseers of Poor	\$1,873 99
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SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Order to School Committee	\$4,025 00
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STATE AID PENSIONERS.

State aid to pensioners, Chap. 468, Acts of 1909, 12 months	\$248 00
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TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Order to Trustees Taft Public Library	\$337 25
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The Selectmen report the available assets of the town as follows:—

Due from Tax Collector, 1914	\$ 46 00	
Due from Tax Collector, 1915	341 77	
Due from Tax Collector, 1916	2,822 09	
Due from State on account of State Aid..	248 00	
Cash on hand	1,351 63	
	<hr/>	\$4,809 49

The liabilities of the town, so far as known, are as follows:

Seven New School Building notes	\$3,500 00	
Seven New School Building notes	1,050 00	
One General expense note	500 00	
Two notes, anticipation of revenue	2,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$7,550 00
Net indebtedness of town	\$2,740 51	

AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

Austin Wood Relief Fund	\$75 00
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MONEY FROM STREET RAILWAY COMPANIES TO BE
EXPENDED ON HIGHWAYS:

Milford & Uxbridge St. Ry. Co.	\$227 29	
Milford, Attleboro & Woonsocket St. Ry. Co.	41 63	
Worcester Consolidated St. Ry. Co.	688 62	
State Treasurer	788 68	
	<hr/>	\$1,746 22

Appropriations for 1916;—

Support of schools	\$4,000 00
School physician	25 00
Support of Poor	1,800 00
Repairs of Highways and Bridges	2,800 00
Taft Public Library	300 00
Interest	500 00
Town debt	1,150 00
Incidentals	800 00
Salaries (Town officers)	800 00
Board of Health	200 00
Fire Department	200 00
Soldiers' Relief	50 00
Tree Warden	25 00
Moth Scout	300 00
Memorial Day	55 00
Insect Pests	50 00
Highway Commission	500 00
Old Cemetery	50 00
Suppression of liquor selling, gambling and vice	50 00
Street Lights	310 00
Fire Building	250 00

RECAPITULATION.

Town officers	\$ 755 93	
Street lights	246 64	
Old cemetery	44 75	
Memorial Day	55 00	
Moth Scout	157 50	
Fire Department	15 00	
Fire Building	249 91	
Board of Health	223 75	
Tree Warden	22 70	
Incidentals	818 95	
State road	1,034 76	
Roads and bridges	3,218 27	
Support of poor	1,873 99	
Schools	4,025 00	
State aid	248 00	
Taft Public Library	337 25	
	<hr/>	\$13,327 40

LIST OF JURORS.

NAME.	OCCUPATION.
Geo. E. Phillips,	Plumber.
Herbert J. George,	Manufacturer.
Edward F. Blood,	Bookkeeper.
Samuel W. Wood,	Carpenter.
Andrew J. Byrne,	Farmer.
Willard N. Seibert,	Poultryman.
Charles H. Allen,	Carpenter.
Moses U. Gaskill,	Farmer.
Fred A. Davenport,	Farmer.
Lyman Cook,	Farmer.
Rufus E. Taft,	Farmer.
John J. Broughey,	Mechanic.
Jesse A. Esty,	Carpenter.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH A. STEERE,
HENRY M. BURR,
EDWARD T. POWERS,

Selectmen of Mendon.

Jan. 29, 1917.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

1914.

Dr.

To balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1916	\$557 54	
Interest received	70 99	
	_____	\$648 53

Cr.

By cash paid Town Treasurer	\$591 53	
Abatement	11 00	
Amount uncollected	46 00	
	_____	\$648 53

LEONARD T. GASKILL,
Collector of Taxes, 1914.

Mendon, January 1, 1917.

1915.

Dr.

To balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1916 ..	\$2,754 09	
Interest collected	98 43	
	_____	\$2,852 52

Cr.

By cash paid Treasurer	\$2,490 75	
Abatements	20 00	
Amount uncollected	341 77	
	_____	\$2,852 52

LEONARD T. GASKILL,
Collector of Taxes, 1915.

Mendon, January 1, 1917.

18

1916.

Dr.

To taxes committed for collection	\$14,032 96	
Additional assessments	961 14	
Interest received	14 32	
	<hr/>	\$15,008 42

Cr.

By cash paid Treasurer	\$12,166 33	
Abatements	20 00	
Amount uncollected	2,822 09	
	<hr/>	\$15,008 42

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD T. GASKILL,

Collector of Taxes, 1916.

Mendon, January 1, 1917.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

The Road Commissioners submit the following report for the Municipal Year ending Jan. 1, 1917.

RESOURCES.

Balance from 1915	\$ 345 66	
Appropriation	1,053 78	
J. A. George (gravel)	5 10	
State Treasurer, St. Ry. tax	788 68	
M. & U. St. Ry. Co., excise tax	227 29	
M., A. & W. St. Ry. Co., excise tax	41 63	
Worcester Con. St. Ry. Co., excise tax ..	688 62	
	<hr/>	\$3,150 76

EXPENDITURES.

CLEARING ROADS AND PATHS OF SNOW. (Labor.)

C. A. Fletcher	\$17 25
Geo. B. Cromb	33 00
Roscoe Steere	17 80
Fred K. Brown	8 50
Harold Wheeler	10 00
Charles Kelly	3 00
C. A. Fletcher, (2 men)	10 00
Lewis W. Holbrook	7 00
Nils Carlstrom	2 50
Ernest Barrows	3 75
Fred Cain	2 80
Geo. Foster	15 72

Leslie Brown	7 00	
Geo. Nelson	1 00	
Edw. Jenks	6 45	
Joseph Stenson	50	
John Jackson	2 45	
Elwood Evers	50	
H. Cannon	50	
J. Stuart Cox	50	
Lyman Cook	80	
Edw. Knights	8 50	
	<hr/>	\$159 52

TEAMS.

C. A. Fletcher	\$117 00	
J. Stuart Cox	23 75	
	<hr/>	\$140 75
W. C. Robinson & Sons, team and labor ..	\$51 70	
W. G. Larking, team and labor	7 80	
Edw. H. Taft, team and labor	8 80	
	<hr/>	\$68 30

LABOR ON HIGHWAYS.

C. A. Fletcher	\$179 50	
Harold Wheeler	162 50	
Chas. Kelly	79 88	
Geo. B. Cromb	191 25	
Geo. Foster	129 50	
Ernest Barrows	25 88	
Edw. Tancrelle	61 87	
John Towne	23 75	
Chas. Kingman	16 00	
G. W. Moore	9 00	
L. W. Holbrook	2 25	
Raymond Daley	2 00	
C. A. Fletcher, (3 men)	6 75	
	<hr/>	\$890 13

TEAMS.

C. A. Fletcher	\$546 00	
Percy T. Kinsley	133 00	
Wm. J. Irons	58 00	
J. Stuart Cox	27 50	
F. Harding	18 00	
Moses U. Gaskill	18 00	
	<hr/>	\$800 50

GRAVEL.

W. W. Barr	\$28 90	
C. A. Fletcher	4 50	
Felix Brothers	2 50	
Abbie E. O'Connors	10 20	
George Phillips	2 50	
Luther E. Taft	8 40	
Joseph Lamothe	4 70	
Richard Hogarth	5 20	
Alpha Tancrelle	4 20	
Moses U. Gaskill	10 30	
	<hr/>	\$81 40

M. & Ux. St. Ry. Co., flat car and men hauling gravel	\$121 25
H. S. Chadbourne, shovels	1 80
N. E. Road Mach. Company, 1 Austin Reversible Road Mach.	265 00
Jarvis Thayer, repairing culvert	4 70
John Baker, Jr., road oil furnished and applied	593 34
Henry Foster, cutting brush	9 00
Grafton & Upton R. R. Co., Demurrage	1 00
Frank E. Knights, cutting brush	9 00
C. A. Fletcher, plank and stringers	39 00
Clark Ellis & Sons, tools and supplies (two bills)	20 37

J. Stuart Cox, repairing highway at Charles River bridge	8 31	
W. A. Barry, labor and supplies	4 90	
	<hr/>	\$956 42
		<hr/>
		\$3,218 27
Amount overdrawn		\$67 51

Respectfully submitted,

LUTHER W. HOLBROOK,
CHARLES A. FLETCHER,
JUSTIN F. SOUTHWICK,

Road Commissioners.

Jan. 11, 1917.

TREE WARDEN'S REPORT.

RESOURCES.

Appropriation	\$25 00
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EXPENSES.

F. M. Aldrich, labor and cash paid, cutting trees and telephone	\$10 70	
P. T. Kinsley, team	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$12 70
Unexpended		\$12 30

F. M. ALDRICH,

Tree Warden.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending Jan. 1, 1917.

RESOURCES.

Appropriation \$1,800 00

EXPENDITURES.

For support of nine persons having settle- ment in Mendon	1,714 24	
City of Boston, care of two persons having settlement in Mendon	50 00	
Dr. K. A. Campbell, medical attendance March 15, 1912 to Jan. 1, 1916	87 75	
Transportation	22 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,873 99
Deficit		73 99

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH A. STEERE,
HENRY M. BURR,
EDWARD T. POWERS,

Overseers of Poor.

Jan. 29, 1917.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

DOGS LICENSED IN 1916.

77 male dogs	\$154.00
10 female dogs	50.00
	—————\$204.00
Clerk's fees	17.40
	—————
Paid County Treasurer	\$186.60

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1916.

DATE OF BIRTH.	NAME OF CHILD.	PARENTS, WITH MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER.
1916		
Jan. 19.	George Godfrey Davenport,	George G. and Emma B. Randlett.
Jan. 24.	Gertrude Rose Austin,	Chas. W. and Mary McDonnell.
Feb. 10.	Robert Flooks,	James Edward and Dorothy Os- good.
Feb. 14.	Herbert Frederick Wise,	Leon A. and Leta Wilson.
Mar. 7.	Mary C. Powers,	Edward T. and Cecelia G. Conway.
May 3.	John Steele Leonard,	John S. and Althea A. Knight.
May 11.	Janet Marguerite Barrows,	Raymond and Lulu E. Taft.
Aug. 24.	Kenneth Francis Brown,	Francis S. and Beatrice I. Cowee.
Oct. 9.	Elizabeth Thornton Worth,	Howard T. and Bertha E. Pearson.
Oct. 18.	———— Willey,	Perlie G. and Mary E. Savoy.
Oct. 25.	Margaret Elizabeth Coch- rane,	John D. and Elizabeth Dawson.
Nov. 2.	Clifford Earle Mathewson,	Willard P. and Lucy A. Kenney.
Nov. 21.	Hazel Taylor,	Joseph and Alice G. Coffin.
Dec. 9.	Frederick Arthur Partridge,	Frederick C. and Edith M. Wilson.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1916.

DATE OF MARRIAGE.	NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE.
1916.		
Feb. 10.	Joseph Isaiah Bartlett, Mary Louise Paille,	Mendon, Mass. Upton, Mass.
Feb. 28.	Charles Edward Ferris, Adelaide Grace Dyer,	Mendon, Mass. Northbridge, Mass.
June 17.	Antwine Mitchell Plouff, Sarah E. Kivlin,	Mendon, Mass. Readville, Mass.
Aug. 5.	Adin Freeman Messenger, Mabel Moore Taft,	Hopedale, Mass. Mendon, Mass.
Sept. 6.	Raymond Leroy Daley, Ruby Verena Springer,	Mendon, Mass. Mendon, Mass.
Sept. 12.	Joseph Rendo, Bessie Maud Hoggarth,	Mendon, Mass. Mendon, Mass.
Nov. 21.	Edwin Sidney Dolliff, Elizabeth Marshall Allison.	Mendon, Mass. Bellingham, Mass.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1916.

DATE OF DEATH.		NAME.	Y.	AGE. M.	D.
1916.					
Jan. 8		Edward B. Alger,	29	11	10
Jan. 13		Augustine Collin,	61	0	7
Jan. 17		John Powers,	73	0	0
Jan. 24		David Herbert Chilson,	41	3	25
Feb. 27		Abbott Lawrence,	73	10	19
Feb. 28		Mercy Josephine Taft,	60	3	11
Mar. 12		Mary C. Powers,	—	—	5
June 19		Edna May Powell,	5	8	13
June 27		Edith Latimer,	35	4	1
June 30		Joanna A. Fuller,	79	5	10
April 1		Eva I. A. Hartshorn,	33	1	4
July 12		Charles Emerson Gates,	15	6	3
July 20		Sarah Jane Forrest,	79	7	24
Aug. 19		Henry Rich,	75	—	—
Aug. 23		Patrick McAleer,	78	2	—
Sept. 1		Lorenzo G. Clark,	64	4	22
Sept. 4		Henry Joseph George Bartlett,	—	4	18
Sept. 19		Pauline Kingman,	80	6	9
July 28		Edward Livingston Southwick,	80	5	21
Oct. 21		Gertrude F. Hoel,	23	11	5
Nov. 12		Harriet Ellen Pierce Daniels,	73	9	11
Nov. 15		Joseph Northrop,	65	5	22
Nov. 2		Mary Johnson,	67	—	—
Dec. 13		Georgianna D. Cook,	68	0	2
Dec. 13		Willis Maison Nichols,	63	6	26

If errors or omissions are discovered in the list of births, marriages and deaths, report them to the town clerk, that the record may be corrected. Section 6 of Chapter 29 of the Revised Laws requires that "Parents within forty days after the birth of a child, and every householder, within forty days after a birth in his house, shall cause notice thereof to be given to the clerk of the city or town in which such child is born. Every householder in whose house a death occurs, shall, within five days thereafter cause notice thereof to be given to the board of health, or, if the selectmen constitute such board, to the town clerk." Section 29 of Chapter 151 of the Revised Laws reads as follows: "If a marriage is solemnized in another state between parties living in this commonwealth, who return to dwell here, they shall, within seven days after their return, file with the clerk or registrar of the city or town in which either of them lived at the time of their marriage a certificate or declaration of their marriage, including the facts relative to marriages which are required by law, and for neglect thereof shall forfeit ten dollars."

Blanks for the return of all vital records can be obtained from the town clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. ALLEN,

Town Clerk.

Mendon, January 1, 1917.

ADDITIONAL BY-LAWS OF THE TOWN OF MENDON.

At the annual Town Meeting of the Town of Mendon, held on Monday, March 1st, 1915, under Article 22, which was: To see if the Town will take any action in relation to amendments of its by-laws or adopt any new ones:

It was unanimously Voted: That the following be and hereby are made and established as by-laws for said Town of Mendon and that the penalties recited be and hereby are fixed as penalties for violation thereof. Said by-laws to be in addition to the present by-laws of said Town and designated as follows:

Article 8. Regulations as to Ways, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places.

Section 1. No person shall stand or loiter on any public way, street, sidewalk or public place within the town to the disturbance or annoyance of the owners of property abutting on said way, street or place, or to any other person or persons, and shall, upon being ordered by any constable or police officer of the town, immediately and peaceably depart.

Section 2. No person shall suffer or permit any horse or other animal, carriage, automobile, bicycle, or other vehicle of any description, belonging to him or under his care or control, to remain standing on any public way, street, sidewalk or public place within the town to the disturbance or annoyance of the owners of property abutting on said way, street or place, or to any other person or persons, and shall upon being ordered by any constable or police officer of the town, immediately and peaceably depart with said animal or vehicle.

Section 3. Whoever violates any of the provisions of either

of these sections shall forfeit and pay for each violation thereof,
a fine not exceeding twenty dollars.

A true copy of the records.

Attest : CHARLES H. ALLEN,
Town Clerk.

The foregoing by-laws are approved.

HENRY C. ATTWILL,
Attorney General.

Mendon, May 25, 1915.

A true copy. Attest :
CHARLES H. ALLEN,
Town Clerk.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

It is a pleasure to report another year of pleasant and profitable work at the library. There seems to be a constantly increasing appreciation of its advantages on the part of both young and old. This is as it should be, for we certainly are living in a reading age.

The new lighting system is a marked improvement. Electric lights are not only cleaner and more convenient, but they are more easily cared for. They give more and better light and it is more uniformly distributed, all of which tends to reduce eye-strain and makes it easy to read in any part of the building.

The State Library Commission has contributed an unusually large number of books during the past year, books of a solid and substantial character. Many of them are reference books including a Webster's International Dictionary. We are truly grateful to the Library Commission as well as to citizens and others who have contributed reading matter to the library during the year.

In a room so well lighted and heated it is perfectly practicable to do reference work if one wishes to do so. While the reference department is not large at present, doubtless more works of reference would be added if the demands were sufficient to warrant it.

The co-operation between the library and the schools is cordial, but not so extensive as it might be. The librarian is always glad to assist pupils in finding books and material bearing upon their work, also in making a selection of books to send to the various schools.

A collection of library books should be found in every school-room, and they should be freely and liberally used to supplement the regular text-books. Library books thus used would stimulate

an interest in reading, illuminate the subjects being studied, and tend to make real students of the boys and girls.

Here is a splendid opportunity for the teachers of the public schools, and the success of the enterprise depends almost entirely upon them. In those rooms only where the teacher is interested and enthusiastic will very much reading be done outside of the prescribed text-books. If the teacher realizes the importance to the child of living in an atmosphere of books, the efficiency of her work will be doubled.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN L. WILSON,

SMITH A. STEERE,

LYMAN COOK,

F. G. ATWELL,

Trustees of Taft Public Library.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY:—

There have been 235 volumes added the past year, and 4 destroyed because of scarlet fever, making the number of volumes now in the library, approximately 5866. Of those added, 108 were bought by the town and 127 were given as follows: Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission gave 93; Charlotte E. Day, 18; Secretary of Commonwealth, 10; National Cannery Association, 1; National Bank of New York, 1; Arthur A. Carey, 1; Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, 1; American Jewish Committee, 1; New England Anti-Vivisection Society, 1.

The total circulation of the year was 6291. The largest for one week was 172, the smallest 73, the average 133. The circulation by classes was as follows: Fiction, 3965; unbound magazines, 1646; bound magazines, 77; biography, 59; travel, 84; history, 101; literature, 98; useful and fine arts, 112; science, 84; all others, 65.

The library subscribes for the Century, Munsey, National Geographic, Field and Stream, Illustrated World, Scientific American, St. Nicholas, Woman's Home Companion and Ladies' Home Journal. The Massachusetts Library Commission sends us the World's Work, Popular Mechanics, Good Housekeeping, Public Libraries and American Boy. The Metropolitan, Woman's Journal, Musical Messenger, Choir, and Our Dumb Animals are sent by the publishers. The Scribner's is given by the librarian, the Atlantic by Paul Williams, and several bundles of various magazines have been sent to the library by Miss C. R. Seabury.

Books have been sent to the Albeeville school about once a month.

BOOKS ADDED IN 1916.

Fiction :—

- After the Manner of Men. Francis Lynde
Alice Devine. Edgar Jepson.
Amiable Charlatan. E. P. Oppenheim.
Aunt Jane. Jennette Lee.
Babette. F. B. Smith.
Bent Twig. Dorothy Canfield.
Blind Man's Eyes. Wm. MacHarg and Edwin Balmer.
Bonnie May. Louis Dodge.
Border Legion. Zane Grey.
Bright Eyes of Danger. John Foster.
Cab of the Sleeping Horse. J. R. Scott.
Cape Cod Stories. J. C. Lincoln.
Cap'n Dan's Daughter. J. C. Lincoln.
Cathedral Singer. J. L. Allen.
Cloistered Romance. Florence Olmstead.
Come Out of the Kitchen. A. D. Miller.
Country Chronicle. Grant Showerman.
Dear Enemy. Jean Webster.
Door of Dread. Arthur Stringer.
Duchess of Wrexhe. Hugh Walpole.
Felicity Crofton. Marguerite Bryant.
Fortunes of Garin. Mary Johnston.
Green Alleys. Eden Philpotts.
Green Mansions. W. H. Hudson.
Hermit Doctor of Gaya. I. A. R. Wylie.
Jim, Unclassified. R. J. Kelly.
Julius Le Vallon. Algernon Blackwood.
Kingdom of the Blind. E. P. Oppenheim.
Lady of Leisure. Ethel Sidgwick.
Leopard Woman. S. E. White.
Life and Gabriella. Ellen Glasgow.
Lightning Conductor Discovers America.
C. N. and A. M. Williamson.
Little Miss Grouch. S. H. Adams.
Maelstrom. Frank Froest.

- Man in Lonely Land. K. L. Bosher.
 Mary 'Gusta. J. C. Lincoln.
 Miss Gibbie Gault. K. L. Bosher.
 Mr. Britling Sees It Through. H. G. Wells.
 Nan of Music Mountain. F. H. Spearman.
 Old Judge Priest. Irwin S. Cobb.
 Real Adventure. H. K. Webster.
 The Sailor. J. C. Snaith.
 Seventeen. Booth Tarkington.
 Side of the Angels. Basil King.
 Song of the Lark. W. S. Cather.
 The Spinster. S. N. Cleghorn.
 Tales of the Labrador. W. T. Grenfell.
 Thirty-nine Steps. John Buchan.
 Tish. M. R. Rinehart.
 Under the Country Sky. Grace Richmond.
 The Unknown Mr. Kent. Roy Norton.
 Valley Road. M. H. Foote
 Wall Street Girl. F. O. Bartlett.
 Watermeads. Archibald Marshall.
 Way of an Eagle. E. M. Dell.
 Worn Doorstep. Margaret Sherwood.
 Xingu. Edith Wharton.
 Yellow Dove. George Gibbs.

Juveniles:—

- Adventures of Sammy Jay. T. W. Burgess.
 Barnaby Cross Stories.
 Blue Bird for Children. M. Maeterlinck.
 Boris in Russia. E. B. McDonald.
 Boy Scouts. Official Hand Book.
 Boy's Book of Battles.
 Boy's Life of Edison. W. H. Meadowcroft.
 Brooks' Primer. C. F. Carroll and S. C. Brooks.
 Captain Danny. Walter Camp.
 Chicken World. E. B. Smith.
 Children's Book. F. H. Burnett, ed.

- Children's Book. H. E. Scudder, ed.
 Children's Pickwick. Cartwright, ed.
 Colette in France. E. B. McDonald.
 Dickens' Dramatic Reader. Fanny Comstock, ed.
 The Doers. W. J. Hopkins.
 Early Life of Mr. Man. E. B. Smith.
 Famous Men of the Middle Ages. J. H. Haaren.
 Famous Stories Every Child Should Know. H. W. Mabie, ed.
 Farm Book. E. B. Smith.
 Felicia. E. L. Gould.
 Field Book of American Flowers. F. S. Mathews.
 First Book of Forestry. Filibert Roth.
 Five Little Peppers in the Little Brown House.
 Margaret Sidney.
 Four American Poets. Sherwin Cody.
 Friendship of Nations. Lucile Gulliver.
 Fritz in Germany. E. B. McDonald.
 From Colony to Commonwealth. N. M. Tiffany.
 Games for Playground. J. H. Bancroft.
 Golden Goose Book. L. L. Brooke.
 Good Stories for Great Holidays. F. J. Olcott.
 Grannis of the Fifth. A. S. Pier.
 Harper's Beginning Electricity. D. C. Shafer.
 Harper's Indoor Book for Boys. J. H. Adams.
 How the Pennypackers Kept the Light. Sophie Swett.
 In the Once Upon a Time. Lillian Gask.
 Indian Scout Talks. C. A. Eastman.
 Insect Folk. M. W. Morley.
 June. E. B. Delano.
 Just David. E. H. Porter.
 King Arthur. M. R. Warren.
 Land We Live In. O. W. Price.
 Lessons on Manners. J. M. Dewey.
 Little Strawman. C. W. Hunter.
 Loraine. Elizabeth Gordon.
 Mary Rose of Mifflin. F. R. Sterret.
 Master Skylark. John Bennett.
 Mexican Twins. L. F. Perkins.

Mother Nature's Children. A. W. Gould.
 Mother West Wind's Neighbors. T. W. Burgess.
 Myths of the Red Children. G. L. Wilson.
 Nature Studies in Field and Wood. C. A. Reed.
 Nature Study, Birds. C. A. Reed.
 On the Warpath. J. W. Schultz.
 Once Upon a Time. M. E. Caldwell.
 Our Little Cuban Cousin. M. H. Wade.
 Parlour Games.
 Phrousie Pepper. Margaret Sidney.
 Pictures of British History. E. L. Hoskyn.
 Pierrot, Dog of Belgium. W. A. Dyer.
 Plays for School Children. A. M. Lutkenhaus.
 Shelters, Shacks and Shanties. D. C. Beard.
 Six Little Ducklings. Katherine Pyle.
 Six Little Pennypackers. Sophie Swett.
 Stories of Brave Dogs. M. H. Carter.
 Stories of the Pilgrims. M. B. Pumphrey.
 Track's End. Hayden Carruth.
 When I Was a Boy in Belgium. Robert Jonckheere.
 When I Was a Boy in Russia. V. D. B. Mokrievitch.
 Wild Flowers Every Child Should Know. F. W. Stack.
 Young Puritans in King Philip's War. M. P. W. Smith.

Non-Fiction :—

American Lyrics. Edith Rickert. ed.
 American Masters of Sculpture. C. S. Caffin.
 American Woman Abroad. Blanche McManus.
 Atlantic Classics.
 Avon and Shakespeare's Country. A. G. Bradley.
 Basketry Work. M. M. Blanchard.
 Beautiful Britain, Abbotsford.
 Beautiful Britain, Stratford-on-Avon. Dixon Scott.
 Beautiful Britain, Trossachs. G. E. Mitton.
 Beginnings of New England. John Fiske.
 Benighted Mexico. R. W. Smith.
 Camera Crusades Through the Holy Land. D. L. Elmendorf.

- Canning and How to Use Canned Foods. A. W. Bitting.
 Century Cyclopedia of Names.
 Conciliation With America. Edmund Burke.
 Diplomat's Wife in Mexico. Edith O'Shaughnessy.
 The Domestic Cat. E. W. Forbush.
 An Ethical Problem. Albert Effingwell.
 Fear God and Take Your Own Part. Theodore Roosevelt.
 Fighting France. Edith Wharton.
 First Hundred Thousand. Ian Hay.
 From Cataract to Equator. J. T. Dennis.
 Golden Treasury, 2 vols. F. T. Palgrave.
 Harper's Encyclopaedia of U. S. History, 10 vols.
 Harvard College. G. B. Hill.
 Hay, Life of John, 2 vols. W. R. Thayer.
 Hilltop on the Marne. Mildred Aldrich.
 How to Live. Irving Fisher.
 In and Outdoor Games. B. Kingsland.
 Jews in the Eastern War Zone.
 Johnson, Life of Samuel, 2 vols. James Boswell.
 Kipling's Works, 18 vols. Rudyard Kipling.
 'Mademoielle Miss.'
 Massachusetts, Brief History of Constitution.
 L. A. Frothingham.
 Memorial Day. R. H. Shauffler, ed.
 Men of the Old Stone Age. H. F. Osborn.
 Motor Rambles in Italy. Harris Credo.
 National Banks in New York.
 Nelson, Life of Horatio. Robert Southey.
 Nurse in Every Home. M. G. Overlock.
 Plain Facts About Mexico. G. J. Hagar.
 Political History, General Sketch of. A. D. Innes.
 Present Day China. G. L. Harding.
 Productive Poultry Husbandry. H. R. Lewis.
 Reading in the Primary Grades. Frances Jenkins.
 Romance of the Rhine. Charles Marriott.
 Russian Empire of Today and Yesterday. N. O. Winter.
 Scout Law in Practice. A. A. Carey.
 Second Post. E. V. Lucas.

Secrets of the German War Office. A. K. Graves.
 Shakespeare. John Masefield.
 Shakespeare and Stratford. H. C. Shelley.
 Shakespeare, Life of William. Sidney Lee.
 Shakespeare, Stories from. Jeanie Lang.
 Some Sporting Dogs. F. T. Barton.
 Soul of the War. Philip Gibbs.
 Speaking of Operations. I. S. Cobb.
 Story of a Pioneer. A. H. Shaw.
 Table Service. Lucy C. Allen.
 Textiles. P. H. Nystrom.
 Understanding the French. R. L. Hartt.
 We Discover New England. L. C. Hale.
 Webster's New International Dictionary, 1916.
 What is Coming? H. G. Wells.
 Vital Records of Boxborough, Bridgewater, Burlington, Cambridge, New Ashford, Richmond, Salisbury and Westford.
 \$14.75 was received from fines. \$1.00 was received from the sale of lamps.

Respectfully submitted,

LENA W. GEORGE,

Librarian.

Finance Committee Report.

The report of the Finance Committee of the Taft Public Library for the year ending Dec. 31, 1916.

RESOURCES.

Appropriation	\$300 00	
Balance from last year	29 13	
Cash for lamp	1 00	
Fines	14 75	
	<hr/>	\$344 88

EXPENDITURES.

Lena W. George, librarian	\$100 00	
C. H. Gillis, janitor	15 30	
Edward F. Driscoll, magazines	15 55	
H. W. Wilson Co., readers' guide	4 00	
H. M Burr, supplies	1 00	
Gaylord Bros., guides and cards	7 30	
Howard G. Ramsey, electric lighting supplies	10 76	
Harry Taft, labor	75	
E. H. Taft, wood	6 65	
Old Corner Book Store, books	101 36	
H. R. Hunting Co., books	18 20	
Lena W. George, books	13 50	
Mrs Sumner Allen, carrying books to Albeeville School	3 00	
E. L. Wilson, labor	75	
Lena W. George, express	7 35	
D. H. Barnes, supplies	40	
S. A. Steere, painting floor	5 00	
Worcester Suburban Electric Co., service	11 00	
Lewis H. Barney, coal	15 38	
	<hr/>	
	\$337 25	
Balance on hand	7 63	
	<hr/>	
		\$344 88

Respectfully submitted,

LYMAN COOK,
SMITH A. STEERE,

Finance Committee.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the accounts of all the Town Officers who have received or disbursed funds belonging to the town for the fiscal year ending January 1st, 1917, and find them correctly kept and with proper vouchers.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. M. TAFT,

Auditor.

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF MENDON,

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR 1916-17.

MILFORD, MASS.:
MILFORD JOURNAL CO., PRINTERS,
1917.

ORGANIZATION OF
SCHOOL COMMITTEE—1916-17.

LENA W. GEORGE, (Secretary)
CLARENCE A. TAFT,
LYMAN COOK, (Chairman)

Term expires 1917.
Term expires 1918.
Term expires 1919.

SUPERINTENDENT.

F. G. ATWELL.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

GEORGE A. PARKINSON,
F. G. ATWELL.

LYMAN COOK,

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The School Committee submit the following report for the year ending Jan. 1, 1917.

RESOURCES.

Appropriation	\$ 4,000 00	
Appropriation for School Physician	25 00	
From State	1,053 28	
From State, Superintendent	375 00	
From State, High School Assistant	500 00	
From State, tuition	142 00	
From City of Boston, tuition	70 50	
From County Treasurer, dog tax	167 98	
	<hr/>	\$6,333 76

EXPENDITURES.

Teachers	\$3,623 50	
Superintendent	615 00	
Transportation	713 30	
Fuel	520 99	
School Physician	25 00	
Care of Buildings	378 79	
Text books and supplies	264 30	
Incidentals	103 37	
	<hr/>	\$6,244 25
Balance		\$89 51

TEACHERS.

Charles H. Risley	\$540 00	
Charles P. Steward	360 00	
Alice C. Pulsifer	530 00	
Karin L. Ekman	276 00	
Laura L. Strickland	456 00	
Mary E. Dudley	456 00	
Agnes M. Fraser	396 00	
Clara M. Wilder	150 00	
Maria E. Allen	351 50	
Amy Wheelock	108 00	
	<hr/>	\$3,623 50

SUPERINTENDENT.

F. G. Atwell	\$615 00
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TRANSPORTATION.

Milford & Uxbridge St. Ry. Co.	\$211 30	
J. Franklin Leonard	380 00	
Leonard E. Taft	120 00	
W. G. Larking	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$713 30

FUEL.

H. M. Curtiss Coal Co., East Mendon ...	\$ 8 20	
H. M. Curtiss Coal Co., Center	496 79	
Joseph Taylor, Center	2 00	
Pierre Norman, Center	2 00	
Justin F. Southwick, Albeeville	12 00	
	<hr/>	\$520 99

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN.

Dr. K. A. Campbell	\$25 00
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CARE OF BUILDINGS.

George A. Parkinson	\$180 00	
Fred Hoel	40 80	
George H. Whiting	99 99	
Maria E. Allen	18 50	
Georgianna Cook	11 00	
Minnie F. Thayer	28 50	
	<hr/>	\$378 79

TEXT BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

White, Smith Publishing Co.	\$ 1 40	
Silver, Burdett & Company	1 12	
D. C. Heath & Co.	39 34	
Bernard M. Sheridan	2 50	
American Book Company	13 74	
Graphic Text Book Company	1 08	
Edward E. Babb & Co.	46 03	
J. J. Gibbs	8 40	
J. L. Hammett Company	72 01	
Milwaukee Dustless Brush Co.	8 00	
Ginn & Company	18 56	
The Macmillan Company	34 31	
Staples & Gould	2 60	
Allyn & Bacon	6 99	
Daniel O'Neill	1 10	
F. G. Atwell	7 12	
	<hr/>	\$264 30

INCIDENTALS.

R. C. Eldridge, cleaning clock	\$ 1 00
J. J. Gibbs, kresoline	1 25
Werber & Rose, table for High school ...	2 50
Clinton L. Barnard, repairing clock ...	1 00
T. E. Morse, glass and paint	2 55
Clark Ellis & Sons, lawn edge, thermometers, batteries, lantern	2 20

E. T. Powers, labor and material	3 62
Herbert J. George, cartage	1 00
F. G. Atwell, telephone, express, stationery, etc.	11 13
George E. Thayer, use of well	3 00
Herbert C. Forbes, lettering diplomas ...	1 00
Clark Ellis & Sons, screws, wire, valves, door bolt, glass	1 70
Milford Journal Company, programs and discharge cards	5 25
Joseph H. Dudley, care of church	2 00
Jacob R. Brown, oil and labor on floors ..	10 00
Charles H. Allen, key, repairing window, etc.	1 00
Avery & Woodbury Co., shade	1 50
George H. Locke, shingles	2 00
Frank C. Albee, cement and labor	4 50
F. O. Wadman, reseating chair	1 15
H. S. Chadbourne, flag rope	1 18
George H. Whiting, labor	10 00
Henry L. Patrick, tools, brooms, etc ...	3 12
D. H. Barnes, brushes, dustpan, soap, etc.	1 92
J. F. Damon, labor on lock	35
Clarence A. Taft, cleaning vaults, etc....	3 00
Lyman Cook, school census, district meeting, labor and supplies	14 45
Lena W. George, secretary	10 00

\$103 37

Respectfully submitted,

LYMAN COOK,
LENA W. GEORGE,
CLARENCE A. TAFT,

School Committee.

Mendon, Jan. 2, 1917.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MENDON :—

The twenty-third annual report of the superintendent of schools is herewith presented :—

CHANGES OF TEACHERS.

During the summer vacation Mr. Risley was elected to the principalship of the Rutland high school at an increase of salary. While we had expected him to remain in Mendon, we could not properly stand in the way of his advancement. Mr. Steward, who was elected to fill the vacancy is a teacher of several years' experience. From the first day of school his success was assured. He has shown how much can be accomplished when both pupils and teacher are united in spirit and purpose.

Miss Pulsifer's salary was increased enough to retain her services for a second year. This was strongly recommended in last year's report. The results certainly justify the added expense. While she is temporarily away on account of illness in her family, it is expected she will return for the spring term.

On account of a change of residence, Mrs. Strickland resigned her position at the close of the fall term, and the school is now in charge of Mrs. Caroline Blackwood. Mrs. Strickland had taught this school for more than two years, always in the same quiet, efficient manner. Miss Ekman resigned after two years of service in the grammar school and Miss Fraser, who had declined to return to the East school, was elected to fill the vacancy. Miss Clara Wilder, a graduate of Bridgewater Normal School, was secured for the East school.

Nothing could prove more conclusively than some of the experiences of the past year that it is the teacher that makes the school. This fact has been illustrated in the primary school for several years. The important question, therefore, is not so much

what salary is paid as what quality of teaching is received. There is no doubt in my mind that a little more money expended to retain the services of a teacher known to be efficient and satisfactory will be found to be the best kind of economy in the end.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

The Daughters of the American Revolution offered prizes for the best essays on the general topic of the Causes of the American Revolution. The high school prize was won by Martha Lowell, and the grammar school prize by William Brown of the Albeeville school.

The pupils of the Mendon high school are eligible to compete for the Delano Patrick Peace Prizes, but as a rule only a very few enter the competition. Probably this is not due so much to lack of interest as to lack of confidence.

The kindness of the parties offering these prizes is deeply appreciated. The subjects are those in which every pupil should be interested and of which all should possess some definite knowledge. The pupils are greatly benefited by the reading involved in securing the necessary material for an essay. As an exercise in thinking and in English composition, nothing could be better. It is hoped that more pupils will compete for these prizes.

THE ADVANTAGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Until comparatively recent years, the main purpose of a college education was to prepare for the so-called learned professions. Unless one intended to become a minister, a doctor, or a lawyer, he saw no necessity of going to college. The old-fashioned district school, or at most the high school, could supply all the learning he would ever need. And his reasoning was not so very far wrong for those times, but life is much more complex now, and more education is necessary to meet modern conditions. In these days there are a great many positions in business, in mechanical pursuits, in engineering, in architecture, and in teaching which demand more than a high school education. Many types of farming are rapidly developing into skilled occupations requiring technical knowledge and training. Agricultural education has made wonderful prog-

ress during the last decade, and the end is not yet. Higher education, especially of a technical type, has a utilitarian value today such as it never possessed before. This fact should receive the serious consideration of every high school graduate.

THE SCHOOLS AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

More intimate relations between the schools and the library would greatly promote the educational interests of the town. Aside from ethical values, probably the best thing the schools can give to children is a love of books and some knowledge of how to use them. Any child who has once acquired the habit of reading books of real merit will most assuredly educate himself even if his school days do not extend beyond the grades. The schools should spare no effort to lead children to read widely and intelligently. We have too long clung to the tradition that text-books above all others are the most valuable and appropriate for the school-room. Some years ago a prominent educator said that if half the text-books in common use were thrown into the waste basket and library books of the right sort and such magazines as the "World's Work" put in their place, the pupils would be enormously benefited by the change. Another educator said he would like to see in every college a "professorship of common sense" and another of "general information." These quotations indicate there are those who believe the public schools should show every child how to inform his own mind through judicious reading. I hope we shall use the library a great deal more, and with all, have faith to believe that the pupils will be the gainers and that their progress in their regular text-books will be even greater than now.

THE ROLL OF HONOR.

It will be noted that the roll of honor is very brief this year, notwithstanding a few fine records. That of Gladys Blood is quite remarkable. Thirty-two terms, almost eleven years, without either tardiness or absence is a very unusual achievement. It involves excellent health, a firm purpose, and constant vigilance. Other records of ten and twelve terms are very commendable, but all of these are the showing made by a few star pupils. Some

means of improving the attendance of the rank and file of the pupils and thus bringing up the percentage of attendance for the entire town is the real problem. It is possible for a particular school to have two or three names on the roll of honor year after year and yet the percentage of attendance in that school might be very low and the instances of tardiness very numerous. Can some scheme be devised which will improve the attendance of all pupils, which will induce every pupil to be present and on time unless prevented by some perfectly valid reason?

THE COST OF SCHOOLS.

It is true that more is being expended upon the public schools throughout the State than ever before, and the expenditure is far more likely to increase than to decrease. In the smaller towns it constitutes approximately one-third of all town expenses, surely more than any other single item. It is easy to see why the modern school should cost more than the district school as it existed even twenty-five years ago. Teachers' salaries are almost twice as high and certain to go higher. No just comparison can be made between the cost of heating now and twenty-five or fifty years ago. Then a box-stove in the middle of the room consuming three cords of wood per year furnished all the heat. Janitors, also ventilation, except by windows and cracks were unknown. It costs more to maintain a modern heating and ventilating system for a building of four rooms only than the entire cost of running two district schools of the old type. At the present time we are paying enough for transportation of pupils to support two more such schools, and this is a change wholly unknown to the district schools. But practically all towns are committed to this newer and more expensive method of conducting their educational affairs, and there is little likelihood that any of them will ever go back to the earlier and cheaper district schools.

With sincere gratitude for kindly co-operation from all sources, this report is

Respectfully submitted,

F. G. ATWELL,

Superintendent of Schools.

Mendon, Mass., February 8, 1917.

TEACHERS AND SALARIES, JANUARY, 1917.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	SALARIES PER MONTH.	PREPARATION.
High, Assistant, Grammar, Intermediate, Primary, East Mendon, Albeeville, Music,	Charles P. Steward, Alice C. Pulsifer, Agnes M. Fraser, Caroline W. Blackwood, Mary E. Dudley, Clara M. Wilder, Maria Allen, Amy Wheelock,	\$90 00 57 50 44 00 44 00 48 00 40 00 38 00	Bates College. Jackson College. Northfield Seminary. Woonsocket High School. Mendon High School. Bridgewater Normal. Wareham High School. Mount Holyoke College.

SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1916-1917.

SCHOOLS.	SCHOOL YEAR.	FALL TERM.		WINTER TERM.		SPRING TERM.	
		Opens.	Closes.	Opens.	Closes.	Opens.	Closes.
		1916	1916	1917	1917	1917	1917
High School,	40 weeks.	Sept. 4	Dec. 22	Jan. 1	March 23	April 2	June 22
Grades,	36 weeks.	Sept. 11	Dec. 22	Jan. 8	March 16	April 2	June 15

Holidays:—

Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day and Friday following, January 1, February 22, April 19, and May 30.

SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1917-1918.

SCHOOLS.	SCHOOL YEAR.	FALL TERM.		WINTER TERM.		SPRING TERM.	
		Opens.	Closes.	Opens.	Closes.	Opens.	Closes.
		1917	1917	1917	1918	1918	1918
High School,	40 weeks	Sept. 3	Dec. 21	Dec. 31	March 21	April 1	June 21
Grades,	36 weeks	Sept. 10	Dec. 21	Jan. 7	March 15	April 1	June 14

Holidays:—

Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day and Friday following, January 1, February 22, April 19, and May 30.

STATISTICAL TABLE, SEPTEMBER, 1915, TO JUNE, 1916.

	High School.	Grammar.	Intermediate.	Primary.	East Mendon.	Albeeville.	Summaries and averages.
Total enrolment	32	43	33	24	17	21	170
Average membership	29.6	39.24	31.18	21.71	19.00	19.87	160.6
Average attendance	27.7	33.74	25.58	17.69	18.20	17.20	140.11
Per cent. of attendance	93.59	85.98	82.04	81.49	95.79	86.56	87.24
Aggregate attendance	5220	5702	4317	2966	3016	2941	24162
Days of actual schooling	188	169	169	167	167.5	170	171.75
Number of pupils under 5 years of age	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Between 5 and 7 years of age	0	0	0	10	3	3	16
Between 7 and 14 years of age	4	37	33	14	12	16	116
Between 14 and 16 years of age	20	6	0	0	2	2	30
Over 16 years of age	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
Total days of attendance	5220	5702	4317	2967	3016	2941	24163
Total days of absence	361	928	938	671	167	628	3693
Instances of tardiness	494	104	49	53	85	109	894
Of dismissal	80	95	24	23	44	17	283
Number of truants	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
Cases of corporal punishment	0	6	1	0	1	2	10
Visits by superintendent	60	48	52	38	17	7	222
Visits by school physician	2	4	3	3	0	1	13
By others	50	45	31	35	31	28	220

ROLL OF HONOR, 1915-1916.

THIRTY-TWO TERMS.

High School—Gladys Blood.

TWELVE TERMS.

High School—Lloyd Whiting, Charles Gillis.

TEN TERMS.

High School—Marjorie Bullard.

SIX TERMS.

Albeeville—Gladys Powell.

FIVE TERMS.

High School—Martha Lowell.

FALL AND WINTER TERMS.

Grammar—Elmer Sears, Ella Springer.

FALL AND SPRING TERMS.

High School—Minnie Daffon.

FALL TERM.

Intermediate—George Johnson.

East Mendon—Mary Gill.

Albeeville—William Brown.

SPRING TERM.

High School—Ralph R. Cook.

East Mendon—Elmer York, Clifton York.

Graduation Exercises of the
MENDON HIGH SCHOOL,
AT THE

Unitarian Church, Friday Evening, June 23, 1916

Processional March

JOHN E. DALTON.

Prayer

REV. R. W. SIMPSON.

Song—The Red Scarf

Veazie

SCHOOL

Essay—The Red Cross.

MINNIE VIRGINIA DAFFON

Essay—The Making of Motion Pictures

HILDA MARGARET THAYER.

Song—Whispering Breezes o'er the Mountain

(Schubert's Serenade,)

GIRLS' GLEE CLUB.

Essay—Booker T. Washington.

GLADYS BURNS BLOOD.

Song—The Evening Wind

Saint-Saens

(*Arr. from Samson and Delilah*)

SCHOOL

Class History and Prophecy

DONALD WINFRED GOODNOW.

Song—Life of Youth

Geibel

SCHOOL

Presentation of Diplomas

SUPT. F. G. ATWELL.

Recessional March

JOHN E. DALTON.

CLASS OF 1916.

ENGLISH COURSE

Donald Winfred Goodnow

Minnie Virginia Daffon

Hilda Margaret Thayer

LATIN COURSE

Gladys Burns Blood

Class President—Donald Winfred Goodnow.

Class Secretary—Hilda Margaret Thayer.

Class Colors—Lavender and White.

Class Flower—Lavender Sweet Pea.

Class Motto—*Tachons Reussir.* (Try to Succeed)

TOWN WARRANT

WORCESTER, SS.

To the Constable of the Town of Mendon in the County of Worcester,

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon, qualified to vote in Elections and in Town Affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the fifth day of March, punctually, at 9 o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles, viz:—

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Article 2. To bring in their ballots for the following officers, viz: A Town Clerk for one year; three Selectmen for one year; three Overseers of the Poor for one year; a Town Treasurer for one year; one Assessor for three years; a Tree Warden for one year; a Collector of Taxes for one year; an Auditor for one year; a Constable for one year; three Fence Viewers for one year; one Trustee of the Taft Public Library for two years; one School Committee for three years; one Trustee of the Taft Public Library for one year, to fill vacancy; also to bring in their votes Yes or No in answer to the question, Shall license be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?; all on one ballot; designating the office intended for each person voted for.

Article 3. To hear the report of the several town officers and committee and act thereon.

Article 4. To choose all the necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Article 5. To raise such sums as are necessary to pay town charges and make appropriations for the same.

Article 6. To see what measures the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.,

Article 7. To see if the town will authorize its treasurer to hire money, and to what amount, to pay current expenses for the financial year commencing January 1, 1917, in anticipation of revenue.

Article 8. To see if the town will raise and appropriate any sum of money for Memorial Day services, and appoint a committee to expend the same.

Article 9. To see what action the town will take relative to actions that may be brought by, or against the town.

Article 10. To see if the town will raise and appropriate any sum of money for the extermination of insect pests in public ways and places, said appropriation to be expended under the direction of the tree warden.

Article 11. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate any sum of money to be expended on highways provided the Massachusetts Highway Commission will contribute for the same.

Article 12. To see if the town will raise and appropriate any sum of money for care and improvement in the old cemetery, or take any action in relation to the same.

Article 13. To see if the town will elect a finance committee, or take any action in relation to the same.

Article 14. To see if the town will raise and appropriate any sum of money for the suppression of liquor selling, gambling and vice, or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 15. To see if the town will vote to establish additional street lights, raise and appropriate any money therefor, or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 16. To see if the town will take any action in regards to the celebration of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the incorporation of the town, or act in any way in relation thereto.

Article 17. To see if the town will vote to make any changes in the list of prices charged for the use of Town Hall building, or take any action in relation to the same.

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to make any changes in the salaries of its officers, or act in any way in relation thereto.

Article 19. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate any sum of money to be expended on State Road at South Milford, or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 20. To see if the town will vote to have the names of candidates for Park Commissioners for three years placed on the official ballot at all future elections.

The polls may be closed at 4 P. M.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up an attested copy thereof at the Post Office in said Mendon, and causing a copy of the same to be published one time in one of the daily papers, published in Milford, Mass., both said posting and publication to be at least seven days before the time of the meeting hereby ordered to be held.

Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen and Town Clerk, before the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this tenth day of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

SMITH A. STEERE,
EDWARD T. POWERS,
HENRY M. BURR,

Selectmen of Mendon.

A true copy, attest:

J. ARTHUR BROWN,
Constable of Mendon.